Mattinutal



Citien C.

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Reminiscences of a Detached Volunteer in a Regular Battery.

GRANT AND ARTILLERY.

Had to Stand Idle While the Infantry Floundered to Death.

RESUME OF THE CAMPAIGN

Charging the Rebel Lines in Front of Petersburg.

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UCH has been said and written about the small use of artillery in the Virginia campaign of 1864. It used to be thought and discussed among the artillerymen that Grant had very little use for their arm of the service, anyhow, and that he thought it had been developed and its use attempted to a greater extent

advantageous in previous camplaced great reliance on their artillery, and when we crossed the Rapidan it was undoubtedly the most perfectly organized force of that arm in the world.

But Grant was credited in the camp gossip of the time with all sorts of disparaging that "artillery was useful in a country where the roads were good, wide expanses of open fields and plenty of commanding positions, at critical moments, etc.; but in a region like that between the Rapidan and the James, it was not only of little use, but generally a positive incumbrance; that it required large and expensive trains for its ammunition and forage; that owing to the dense woods and narrow roads it could not be used with effect corresponding to the trouble of

maintaining it," and all that sort of thing. that "the reason why Grant did not prop-



selves," and so on. Fifth Corps batteries, manned as they were 36, to bear on him, unaided, right in front of us, in impassable fresh one was put in.

we asked one another "Why don't they LET US MAKE A LITTLE HELL of those thickets for a while?" We had waited.

room on the knoll south of the Lacey House to form at least five batteries facing west and southwest, toward these thickets, and like old times. This was when the enemy Chewning and Hagerson clearings beyond, taine House, checked and repulsed them deal of ammunition, but we had plenty of resumed the following day. that, and I have always thought it was a We had no further opportunity until the

most undesirable neighbor.

MILK IN THE COCOANUT."



GREEDY OLD JOHN BULL to his American myrmidons: That's the way, my importing, Rebel Copperhead, Free Whisky friends, Go right ahead. Cut down that revenue tree and well known that McClellan and Meade had crack those Pension and Surplus nuts. You can have the shells, in welcome, but I want the milk to fatten my own people,

searched those thickets with a storm of case- road, with the enemy's canister rattling enemy from reinforcing any one critical sault on the main works of that place, which shot that would have driven out the cotton- among the spokes of our wheels-"By ---tail rabbits, not to speak of the enemy's in- | we've got a chance at last!"

where numbers of batteries could be massed left lying in the brush that it would have Virginia campaign of 1864. been cruel to have fired caseshot in there at

event. I don't know about these things; but I do know that we all thought then that we could have borne a much more effective | Bull Run or Antietam. On the other hand, artillery officers said hand than we did in the battle of the Wilderness, if our arm of the service had been

> Again, the 8th, 10th, and 12th of May, at Spottsylvania, the same fragmentary, indecisive method of using artillery seemed to prevail. At least five of the eight batteries of the Fifth Corps had got into the Alsop clearing, within sight of Spottsylvania Ridge, by 8 o'clock in the morning of the 8th of May, and a resolute reconnoissance by a couple of regiments of infantry would have developed the position and the strength of the enemy quite as definitely as they were | welcome, because it cooled the air, laid the dust uncovered by the heavy charge and bloody and filled the hollows with pure water, which repulse of Robinson's Divison.

Then, after Robinson was repulsed, two batteries were ordered up,-Martin's or Walcott's and ours,-and we sustained in the open field for half an hour or more

A DESPERATE CONFLICT? with 12 or 14 guns of the enemy under cover and in a most advantageous position. True, erly value that arm was because he did not | we were reinforced by Mink and, later, by know how to use it, but preferred the sim- Rittenhouse, but not until the heaviest part pler method of shoving his infantry into the of the work was over. In the position where brush, to kill as many rebels as possible, we first went into battery the field was wide while they were all getting killed them- enough to form up at least five batteries, or, in close order, six; so that, instead of assail-I suppose there was some foundation for | ing the enemy's position at the Spindler this feeling on both sides. In the Wilder- House with 12 guns, as we did at the start, ness it was a sad spectacle to see our superb | we could just as well have brought 30, if not | which was bad enough, but it was so much

with redoubtable veterans, and eager to But the whole tactics of that campaign "turn loose their war dogs," compelled to seemed to be those of simple assault with stand idle 36 hours in the Lacey clearing or infantry. If one assault failed another was at the Wilderness Tavern, while our devoted ordered, sometimes by the same troops, or infantry was floundering to certain death, when one division had been destroyed a tent to criticize or even discuss the tactical

thickets or swamps! while a little to our | On the 12th of May, just as a few sections | stated by high military authority that the tacleft were massed the 50 guns of Hancock's from our various batteries had fairly got to Corps, behind the Brock road, in a state of enfilading the inner faces of the west angle, not well advised. The order was to "attack all almost equal idleness. It may be inquired we were compelled to desist, by the fact that why we did not search the woods with case- our infantry had charged up to the outer shot or shell, as we had so often done on faces and stopped there, while the rebels reother fields, many of them heavily timbered? | mained inside, the two being only the thick-I cannot answer this question. When we ness of the breastwork apart; which, of stood there idle in the Lacey clearing, and course, precluded artillery fire without saw our infantry repeatedly driven back out danger of destroying our own men. I firmly of the brush on the south side of the pike, believe that we would have made that side of the angle untenable with our caseshot alone in 20 minutes if our infantry had

At Jericho Ford, on the North Anna, we had a little flurry that seemed more we could have thrown shell and case clear | broke Cutier's Division on our extreme right, to the further edge of them and into the and we, being in battery west of the Fon-Grant himself and Meade also were at the with canister. This, while it lasted, was a Lacey House during portions of both days rattling affair, but they did not come on like (5th and 6th of May), and they could not they did at Gettysburg; none of their infanhave helped seeing this opportunity. I am try, as I recollect, coming nearer than 300 or sure we could have made those thickets very | 350 yards of our muzzles. But it was aluncomfortable if not wholly untenable for most sundown when this occurred, and night along the line." It was delivered to three the enemy. It would have required a good put an end to the conflict, which was not

mistake that, after the enemy's presence there 2d of June in front of Bethesda Church, as each other's movements." If this is true it saw was developed in great force, we were not related in foregoing pages; and even there permitted to "see what we could do" for a our battery was called up to do a desperate couple of hours at least. Perhaps the brush piece of work alone, while another rewas so dense that we could not have pro- mained in column almost within gunshot in duced a decisive effect, but we could have the rear. We were never sorry that this was "shown our good will"; and I have never so, but rather preferred to have it as it was, seen brush dense enough to make an ex- so far as we were personally concerned. ploding 12-pound caseshot anything but a There was, as previously related, as unusual determination on the part of our Cannoneers disaster. If we had had our way the eight batteries to show what they could do, as was evinced of the Fifth Corps would have been put into by John McLaughlin's fierce growl between position from the Lucey House to the bank his teeth as we lifted our trail to unbook it

This might have been done at any time | way, not to criticize old Grant, who had his remarks about it. He was quoted as saying during the morning of the 5th of May; but own method of fighting, but simply to deafter our infantry had been there two or | monstrate that the artillery of the Army of three times and were driven out with great | the Potomac was not to blame for the comloss, no doubt so many of our wounded were | paratively small part it played in the great

THE ARTILLERY OF THAT ARMYat least the corps batteries-was never in I have sometimes thought that Gen. Grant | such form or condition, either as to men or | 1864. expected the enemy to charge into the Lacey | horses or material, as when it crossed the clearing in pursuit of our troops, and wanted Rapidan. Every battery dated its organizato hold our batteries ready for them in that | tion from 1861 or earlier, volunteer or Regular, and nearly every Cannoneer was a veteran all the way from the Peninsula,

> dan to the James without a casualty by gunshot and some of them without firing a shot! As for the Reserve Artillery, we should have force us after Spottsylvania.

To resume our narrative, after we had wiped out the rebel battery, and Bartlett's Brigade position we had won. About sundown copions showers came up, accompanied with heavy thunder and sharp lightning, which needed only big hailstones to remind us of our canister duel in the afternoon. This rain was most | right with the cavalry. we had sadly lacked for several days. It wet next day (June 3) until afternoon, when, hearing of the great repulse of the Second, Sixth and Eighteenth Corps down to the left, we withdrew to the works about the church. We took no part in the battle of June 3, though | OUR ARTILLERY MUST HAVE TOLD WITH PATAL from our position we could trace the progress of it quite distinctly by the sounds and the waves of smoke. The assaults made on the 3d of June were from one to three miles to our left, and the enemy in our immediate front merely held his position, as did we, without material action. Toward night we heard that our three corps to the left had been fearfully repulsed, and that they had lost 20,000 men. Of course this was frightfully exaggerated, but we believed it then, and it made us very solemn during that better than the reports of the night before that we felt relieved.

I have heretofore remarked that from the standpoint of a soldier in the ranks, I felt warranted in approving Grant's assault on the Cold Harbor works as a matter of strategy. Viewmovements as they were made. I have seen it tiets of the assaults of June 2 and 3 on the Second, Sixth and Eighteenth Corps fronts were



A NOVEL BEVERAGE. different corps commanders; first, to "ATTACK IN CONCERT."

and, when they had failed to do that, they were directed to "attack without reference to from either side. However, the Fifth Corps was not good tactics in the most primitive sense | LITTLE OR NOTHING OF THESE HORRORS, of the term. Even as a private soldier, after and knew of them only by hearsay, as we were pulling through the 20 battles preceding Cold drawn from Bethesda Church on the night of Harbor, I had learned enough of the art of war June 5 or 6, and moved round to the left by ability to discern the weakest point in a long | Dispatch Station, where the York Railroad vigor, force it at that point, and then by mained there until the 12th. promptly supporting the attacking column on | At dusk on that day we began crossing the either or both flanks, take advantage of the Chickahominy lower down, at Long Bridge,

I refer to these things in this summary | disgarnished the front which the Eighteenth | after all the privations, fatigues and slaughter they had to be left there to perish during the next three days gives a pathetic lie to any such

It is true that our own corps (the Fifth) took no part in these bloody and futile assaults. Our work was of a more agreeable characterholding the right of the army in the open at and about Bethesda Church, and from there down among the swamps toward Beulah took in the operations was the summary man-But many of them marched from the Rapi- per in which Griffin's Division wound up-Early's effort to turn our right flank during

If I had been in Grat's place I would not forgotten that it was in existence, if it had not | have made those assaults "all along the line" been broken up and its serviceable men and to the southward of Beulah Church, but would horses, with a few of its batteries, sent to rein- have deployed the Eighteenth Corps down there and pushed it up as close to their works | provided, of course, that he could not have as possible, without assaulting, as a demonstration in force, supporting it with the Ninth had driven the enemy's infantry back to the | Corps, which was totally useless as it was Shady Grove road, we all bivouscked in the handled. I would then have massed the Second, Fifth and Sixth Corps at and about Bethesda Church, and would have made a break with them along the Mechanicsville pike, covering the Shady Grove road on our extreme

By this movement I would have calculated to crush the left flank of Lee's army by an overwhelming attack, and to force him into usall to the skin, but we did not care about that; the "pocket" formed by the Chickahominy, in fact we enjoyed it-in fact it was the first | which was unfordable in his rear for more than "bath" we had had for a fortnight. Griffin's half the length of his line, or at any point be-Division held its ground that night and the low the bridge on the road leading from Gaines's old mill to Richmond.

The line of the Mechanicsville pike was in open field, where our numerical preponderance and the superiority of

The ease with which we (Griffin's Division alone, of the Fifth Corps) shattered Early's attempt to turn the right flank on the afternoon of June 2, and the impunity with which Bartlett followed Rodes right up to his intrenchments, after he recoiled, indicates what might have been accomplished by a massive attack on that part of the line the next morning by the combined strength of the Second, Fifth and Sixth Corps, aided by a strong demonstration of the Ninth and Eighteenth Corps on our left

below Beulah Church, No movement of any account was made during the 4th on either side. The dead remained unburied on the ground fought over during June 1, 2 and 3, and as this ground was now between the two lines many of the wounded remained where they fell, and no relief could reach them. This was not true of the Fifth Corps so much as it was of the Second, Sixth and Eighteenth, to our left. Our fighting had been more in the open, and we had more chance

But the other three corps, which had assaulted the trenches and had been bloodily repulsed, had to leave their wounded where they fell. Those who lay nearest our works were dragged that he had abandoned on the day before ran 1865, and when it went into action at Gravto get them in by daylight was flercely repelled | But at daylight it was found that the enemy's by the musketry of the enemy in his works. | new position required us to get on the other Severa! men of the Second and Sixth Corps | side of the cut were shot while they were engaged in this humane work, and this caused a more bitter feeling toward the rebels than all the fighting.

Gen. Lee had always been regarded by our for the grand charge. troops as a humane man, or at least not inhuman, and we maryeled that he should permit so that it was past noon when we got the order come fashionable of late years for writers to his troops to fire on our stretcher-bearers, when | to get out of the cut and go into battery on the | dwell upon "the enormous disparity of numthe object of their mission was so plainly ap- knoll above. We had just got to work with bers" and "the great inequality of equipparent. We preferred to believe that Gen. Lee | caseshot when the infantry-Bartlett's Brihot, and excepting thunder showers the night started forward. As far as we could see to the fiat of fashion. We were superior in numbers, of June 2 I don't remember any rain falling for right were long lines of infantry rushing to- it is true, but not more so than was fair in view 30 days. Three days after the battle there was | ward the works. The ground was much broken, of the advantage they had all the time from a truce to collect the wounded men and bury and as the lines conformed to the ground it had the Rapidan to the Appointance of being the the dead, but it came too late. For the killed, the appearance of great waves of men. In our assaulted force. With rare exceptions the hisof course, it made no difference; but I presume | front the infantry had farther to go than those at least 1,000 wounded of the three corps who | to the right of us, but we were too busy to see had been left close up to the rebel trenches | much of it. As both our guus and the rebel | breastworks to regular fortifications, we alperished wretchedly during those three days. works were on the highest ground, we could Ex-Confederates have told me since the war | easily fire over the heads of our infantry until that they could see the poor wretches moving feebly and trying to erawl toward their (the in the works reserved their fire, and only a few rebel) trenches for succor, and they went out guns that they had back of their trenches replied themselves as far as they dared go and brought to us slowly; but we fired very fast, and our pracin many of those nearest their works; but | tice was the best in our history. Nearly every they did not dare go far, and so those who lay shot grazed their works, and we knocked off a midway between the lines could get no help

of the Wilderness Run, and we would have from the pintle when we unlimbered in the in length. If his purpose was to prevent the hailed with outhusiasm the idea of a direct as-

point by making all points critical, he did not | they hoped would end the war. There can be succeed; because it is now well known that Lee, no grander tribute to the pluck and resolution in the very hight of the assault, deliberately of the Army of the Potomac than the fact that, Corps was attacking to reinforce the front of the past 35 days, unparalleled in history, the cannot be said that these assaults were feebly | ready but anxious to assault the formidable delivered, because the number of wounded men | main works of Richmond straight in the face. | to Petersburg.

who fell so close up to the enemy's works that | However, it soon turned out that this was nothing but a heavy demonstration, calculated to cover the movement of the army to the James statement as that. Nothing in the annals of River; and so, as soon as the rear of the Ninth war can surpass the heroic devotion with which | Corps was clear of the Chickahominy, we rethe Second, Sixth and Eighteenth Corps assail- traced our steps, the cavalry bringing up our were very welcome. I shall never forget the of the James soon after. joy with which I here quaffed a glass of icewater from a cooler on one of the barges, where Church; so that the only considerable part we I was sent with a detail to help unload ammu- of three-years volunteers who had not re-

It was the first I had tasted since I couldn't tell when. The fabled "Nectar of the Gods" was insipid in comparison with it. I suppose glass of ice-water in preference to any other beverage that could have been offered him-



Marching from Windmill Point with Griffin's Division we arrived in sight of the enepected to assault the works at once. We between did not get into position until it was too late to assault that day; but during the night Gen. Griffin got his two batteries up into the Norfolk Railroad cut, which at that point curved to the north, and ours was disposed so that we could slew the left section around and rake the cut for a considerable distance, if necessary. The other battery-Phillips's or Bigelow's, I believe-took position to our right, and near a house called, I think, Taylor's. This position was about 600 yards from the enemy's main works at that point. These were new works in a second line, and the outer intrenchments

TO HAVE A GOOD RANGE ON IT. so we pulled into the cut, and remained there, out of sight, pending the infantry dispositions The infantry was a long time getting ready,

did not know it. The weather was frightfully gade, in our immediate front-rose up and good many of their headlogs. But the ammu-nition was some that we had got out of the barges at Windmill Point, and, to speak after the fashion of an exasperated Gunner, it wasn't worth a ---!

case exploded. The fuses were badly madeto know that true tactical skill consists in the roads in rear of the other corps. We arrived at probably many of them were "sand-plugged" ability to discern the weakest point in a long Dispatch Station, where the York Railroad intrenched line, to assail it with resistless crosses the Chickahominy, on the 7th, and repractice we were making I verily believe we could have driven their infantry out of that section of their works with our shrapnel alone, confusion of the enemy at the vortex of the and moved out on that road during the night, disaster.

| confusion of the enemy at the vortex of the and moved out on that road during the night, our head of column—Griffin's Division, with common shell, which burst better, but of course Grant did not take this course. He eaused our battery, and, I believe, Phillips's Massa- were not near so effective in searching the inhis corps commanders to deliver what might chusetts-reaching Riddle's Crossroads before side of the earthworks as good caseshot would be called disconnected, or, at least, unconcerted, daylight on the 13th. We at first thought this have been. Meantime our infantry was getting "killing" in battle and the "murder" which assaults along a line not less than three miles was an advance on Richmond, and the men close up, and the enemy was beginning to fire

As they had made these works hastily, and DE there was little or no brush in the neighborhood, they were not much abatised, but the infantry said the ditches were unusually wide and deep.

The last shot we fired could not have cleared our men's heads by more than 20 feet, if that, which is pretty risky practice with smooth-bore guns. This last shot from our guns caused me the most serious accident I had while in the

I suppose I had got careless about "standing clear," and on this occasion the trail slewed a SITE OF OLD CAMP. little on account of striking some obstruction, THE WHEEL HIT ME AND KNOCKED ME DOWN, thought at first that my leg was broken; but the boys helped me up, and I soon found I could stand on my foot, though it was badly bruised and began to swell. In a few minutes I had to rip the whole front of my boot open, and soon took it off altogether. The Lieutenant then ordered me to the rear. However, I did not go farther than the calssons. We remained silent here for nearly an hour, when, the infantry having been repulsed and taken cover in the ravine and the low ground in our front, we commenced a slow cannonade, which we kept up till near dark. The infantry meanwhile straightened out the old rebel works, refaced them and by midnight were securely established in the lines, which we held at that point during the whole siege that followed. We were withdrawn after dark behind the railroad, and the siege of Petersburg may be said to date from the 18th of June. I considered that our arrival at Petersburg and first assault on the works there term nated what is generally called "The Virginia Campaign" in comprehensive phrase; the subsequent operations belonged

to another epoch, known as the "Great Siege." So I shall pause here for a brief resume of the history of the Army of the Potomac from the 5th of May to the 18th of June, embracing an approximate account of its sufferings and a de-scription of its morale and physique, as it stood in front of Petersburg. Of course I speak more particularly of the Fifth Corps as to movements, because from my humble station in the ranks I could not be familiar with the opera-tions of the other corps, except fragmentarily and by hearsay; but my observations as to the mental, moral and physical condition of that corps will apply equally to the others. In 44 days the army had marched from the Rapidan to the James. It had been in battle

May 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 18, 23, 24, 25, 29, This refers only to more or less serious fighting by part or all of the army, as there was not a day

when there had not been more or less skirmishing on some part of the line, either by infantry or cavalry. It had built altogether trenches charged by the Second and Sixth Corps. It | troops of Warren's old Fifth Corps were not only | and breastworks enough, if stretched out in a straight line, to have reached from Culpeper

It had lost from all causes-killed, wounded, prisoners and disability from sickness caused by its incredible fatigues and privations-over 70,000 men. It had received reinforcements counting the Ninth Corps, amounting to perhaps 40,000 men present for duty. It had started ed the works in their fronts the 3d of June, rear, and moved rapidly off to the James, where from its Winter camps at Culpeper with 100,000 we arrived at a place called Wilcox's Lauding in round numbers of all arms. It had arthe 14th of June. Here we found pontoon | rived at the James perhaps 70,000 strong, inbridges, the Second Corps already across, and a | cluding the Eighteenth Corps, which had joined fleet of steamboats and tows with supplies, which | it at Cold Harbor, though returned to the Army

IT WAS NOW ABOUT TO LOSE, SAY, 20,000 of its best men by the expiration of the terms enlisted. In fact, these had begun to muster out rapidly when we reached the James, several leaving our battery after the 18th of June. These, as ness as I can recollect, were Pres. there was not at that time a man in the Army Johnson, Jim Lewis, Bill Glesson, Bill Barof the Potomac who would not have chosen a tholomew, Tom Clarke, Henry Burkhardt, and possibly John Knight and - Wine. In fact, the terms of most of these men were already out when the attack was made on Petersburg; but they all staid until it was over. They thought that perhaps the attack might succeed and, if so, it would be likely to result in the capture of the rebel Capital, and perhaps be the decisive battle of the war. As they had been fighting all the way from the first Bull Run, either in their infantry regiments or in the battery, they thought they would feel pretty cheap to be in the rear while Petersburg was being stormed. Fortunately, none of them were

aurt. In fact, no one was seriously hurt in the battery in this attack. The army was receiving recruits all the time, but they were mainly conscripts, substitutes and "big-bounty men," on the whole much inferior in quality to the old volunteers of 1861 and 1862. Still they "kept up the racket," and eventually helped wind up the business in good shape at Appomattox. What these recruits of 1864 would have done with the rebel had to deal with it, no one can say; but they at least proved equal to the task of confronting and whipping and capturing it in its decay, and that was enough. For of the hundred and odd thousand men who closed around Lee's remnant at Appomattox, I don't suppose there were more than 20,000 who had been at Gettysburg, not more than 12,000 who were at Antietem, and probably not 300 who had fought at the first Bull Run. I remark these facts, bemy's works in front of Petersburg in the after- cause few people reflect how completely the noon of the 17th, and found that we were to personnel of the Army of the Potomac was

> THE "HIGH TIDE" OF THE REBELLION and its last ebb. That army was fighting from July 21, 1861, till April 9, 1865. One hundred thousand was about the greatest force it ever had "present for duty equipped" at any one time. But the muster-rolls of the Government show that over 700,000 names passed through its rosters during that time. It is worth while to bear these things in mind,

> If we take the Old Battery for an example, it will appear that it had a general average present for duty of about 80 or 90 men; that about elly Run, March 29, 1865, it had but one man who was with it at the time of the first Bull Run-John Mitchell, and he was its Lieutenant Commanding; but three or four who had been through the butchery of Antietam, and but five or six who had fought at Gettysburg. I also desire at this point, in concluding my

humble recital of the great Virginia campaign of 1864, to refer to another subject. It has bement," etc., between the armies of Grant and Lee in that campaign. I do not yield to this tory of that campaign was that of assaults by us on works varying in strength from field ways attacking with no protection except the woollen blouses that covered our bosoms, they crouching behind "headlogs" or covered in rifle-pits. On this score I appeal to the history of a few assaults or sorties that they made against us. Whenever they assaulted us in fieldworks, as at the Plank and Brock roads the 6th of May, or at Fort Harrison the 27th of September, or at Fort Stedman the 25th of March, 1865; or when they attacked us in the open, as the 5th of May in the Wilderness; or on the Mechanicsville pike at Bethesda Church, the 2d of June; or at Hatcher's Run, the 7th of I don't suppose much more than one-half the February, they came quickly and profoundly

to grief. In the early part of the war the Army of the Potomac was full of patriotic Northern boys and young men to whom the idea of shedding human blood was something herrible be youd expression. They would shut both eyes and hold their muskets high when they pulled the trigger. They had been raised in New England and Middle-State communities, where human life had high value, and they had not yet learned to distinguish between simple

Centinued on 2d page.)

An Old Virginian's Experiences During

and severely bruised my left instepand ankle. I The Place the 18th Pa Cav. was Surprised by Hampton.

KILLING NEGRO SOLDIERS.

Daggett Shoots a Rebel Soldier while Stealing.

BY WM. E. DOYLE, STEVENSBURG, VA.



OMING south from Culpeper Courthouse by way of Allen's and Brannon's and the Curtis and Inskip houses, or by way of Col. Alexander's (afterward Wallach's) and Dr. Taliaferro's and crossing the run at Nall's Mill, you reach the main Blue Ridge and Fredericksburg road, which was a great artery of travel before the days of railroads, and where

efforts were being made to build a canal 30, 31; June 1, 2, 3, 7, 12, 16, 17 and 18-24 days up the Rappahannock River, which was partly completed as far as Kelly's Ford. In those old times I have seen hundreds of wagons daily passing my house, and the stage, with its prancing horses and bugling guard, dashing up and down with its load of passengers, to or from Fredericksburg, the great shipping point.

From Pony Mountain you come past the Massey house, on the left, where three bachelor brothers and a maiden sister lived, and where the brothers still reside; then you pass in sight of Coleman Beckham's and next to Dr. Ed. Barber's place, with Jack Barber's on the right, and you are at Stevensburg when you climb the hill. The road



SLEEPING BURNSIDEES.

from Pony Mountain has run all the way in the bed of a branch until it strikes the flats at Barber's. This road was lined with campe in the Winter of 1863, '4. The Sixth and Ninth Corps, I believe, were up toward and around Culpeper, and along toward Brandy. army in its prime, as when the veterans first | with the Fifth and Second near Stevensburg. Custer's Brigade of Cavalry were in the woods on the Kildee place, and Davies on Sand Spring Ridge and my place. Custer's headquarters were in the Barber house, as already stated, where old Hedgeman Triplett lived, with his daughters, Eliza, Texana (called Molly), and Bettie. Old "Hedge" was a character, and went with a crutch, and it was sport for the officers to "steam him take position to the left, and that it was ex- changed between Gettysburg and Appomattox, up "and get him started, for he was very fond of the ardent. The old man is dead, and the girls married and gone off, so Dr. Ed. Barber has lived in the house since immediately after the war.

> As you rise the hill entering Stevensburg. the house on the right was Curtis's, which still remains; that which stood on the left



UNDER THE OLD PINES LONG AGO. was the Cross Keys Hotel in the palmy days of Stevensburg, and afterwards became

HIDING-PLACE FOR HORSE-THIRVES. rooms being fitted up for the purpose. Kilpatrick took this old house, which had been occupied by Geo. Hughes, but belonged to the Hansboroughs, and made an army theater of it. The house on the southeast corner, diagonally opposite, was Freeman's store, and going toward Germania was Mrs. Laura Brown's, who still lives there with her single daughter, Miss Judy, another daughter being married and her sons gone off, one of them being a merchant in Baltimore. The old house next to this, with a street between, was formerly kept as a hotel by Mrs. Whale, since dead, and is occupied by R. Clark, former overseer on the Ashby